

## LEWY'S TALE OF R. VAN COTT.

## COLONIZATION INFORMER IS A FLUENT WITNESS.

He Wanted to "Wash His Hands Away" When Cashier McAvoy and Jones Washed Their Hands Away—Picked Up "Well Boys" Among the Broadway Statues.

The case of Richard Van Cott, son of Postmaster Cornelius Van Cott, and Banker McAvoy, cashier of the post office, charged with attempting to colonize voters in the Fifth Assembly district, of which Postmaster Van Cott is the Republican leader and his son the deputy leader, had another airing before Justice Wyatt in Special Sessions yesterday afternoon. Several Tammany district leaders were in court.

The only witness examined was Benjamin Levy of 177 East Seventy-fourth street, the young man who says he provided the colonists by order of Van Cott and McAvoy, and who then confessed the whole business. Levy told substantially the same story as is contained in his published affidavit. He said he got something more than 100 colonists, many of whom he and Ralph Jones, a clerk in the office of the superintendent of mails, distributed among the following lodging houses:

23 Greenwich avenue, 5 Washington place, 112 West Eleventh street, Christopher street, 103 East Eleventh street, 222 East Twelfth street, 235 and 143 West Fourth street, 141 and 143 West Fourth street, 34 Third avenue, 33 Bank street.

"Did you know what these men were expected to do?" asked Mr. Collins. "Sure, I did," replied the witness. "I got my instructions from the colonists on Sept. 29 or 30. He told me to give each of the gentlemen \$1 for registration, to pay their room rent for six weeks, and give them \$2 for voting the straight Republican ticket."

The witness told about receiving money from both Van Cott and McAvoy to pay the room rent for the colonists, and said that on one occasion Van Cott got a one hundred dollar bill changed, gave \$50 to Jones and \$50 to himself. He said the first house in which any men were placed was 19 Christopher street.

"I took a couple of the gentlemen down there," said the witness, "and they were like the accommodations, and wouldn't stay. On Oct. 2 I sent five men each to 103 East Eleventh street, 106 East Twelfth street and 143 Fourth street. Mr. Van Cott gave me slips of paper with the house numbers on them. The next night I placed thirteen men. The last time I saw Mr. Van Cott before I saw him in court was on the night of last Monday week, the day room rent was due. Saw him on the street, and he said: 'Ha! ha!' Then he went into the Broome Hotel."

"When did you last see McAvoy?" the witness was asked. "Last Wednesday of a week ago," was the answer. "Then Mr. McAvoy says, 'Ben, my hands are all washed away. Richard says he won't have anything more to do with this, and I've got my position down in the post office. If anything should come out about this colonizing business—Well, I'm a married man.'"

"I says, 'So I'm a married man. Have you heard anything?' He said, 'No,' and I says, 'Well, if you haven't heard anything, what do you want to wash your hands away for? If you have heard anything, tell me, and I'll get my hands washed away.' That was at the Lincoln Club. A little later, Jones said there was a man in the room where he was going to wash his hands away. But before that Jones says to me: 'Ben, can you get me some swell boys?' and said, 'Sure,' and 'Well, says he, 'get me some swell boys.'"

"Where did you get the swell boys?" asked Mr. Collins. "On Broadway," was the answer. "Thirty-seventh street and Broadway. I got all the boys either at the Mills Hotel or on Broadway."

The witness identified four of the "gentlemen" among the seven detained witnesses as among those he had found rooms for. One was a "well boy." The witness was adjourned until next Monday at 3 P. M.

## ARRANGED THE MEGAPHONE.

## Three Markers and the Garden Theatre Gain Nothing by Counter Attacks.

Magistrate Mayo had to listen to about thirteen volleys of charges and counter-charges from ticket speculators and Garden Theatre men, in Jefferson Market police court yesterday. The three Marks brothers, Phil, Isidor and Sam, were all complainants. Baylis Payne, the megaphone man of the Garden Theatre, was the prisoner. He was arrested at the request of Phil Marks for disturbing the peace of Sam Marks, who lives across the street from the theatre, at 63 Madison avenue.

Theorephon David Mayer, treasurer of the theatre, requested the policeman to look up Isidor Marks, a speculator, for obstructing the sidewalk. The megaphone was impounded, too. Magistrate Mayo said:

"Don't blow that thing." "Oh, that's the 'Res Gestae,'" explained the legal mind of the judge, "shouted the Magistrate."

The speculators declared that they had as much right to use tickets as the Garden Theatre. They branded as accomplices of the theatre in the crime of driving poor men out of business. They also complained of the noise made by the megaphone.

"Why don't you go to the Board of Health?" asked Magistrate Mayo, "but they haven't acted."

"Well, I think I shall wait for them," remarked the Magistrate, dismissing both complainants.

## TWO STRUCK WITH ONE BULLET.

## Result of the Accidental Discharge of a Gun in the Adirondacks.

UTICA, Oct. 19.—With two members of the party carrying bullet wounds, three Uticans, Frank Faudon, Gustave Daur and William Baudon, returned today from a deer hunting expedition in the Adirondacks. A single rifle shot caused the injury to the two hunters, and the bullet, at present about evenly divided between them. In Frank Faudon's right shoulder one-half of the bullet is lodged, and the other half is in Mr. Daur's right thigh and right ankle.

The wounds of the two hunters were due to the accidental discharge of William Baudon's rifle. The bullet struck a stone and split in three pieces. One piece entered Frank Faudon's shoulder, another piece lodged in Mr. Daur's right thigh, and another piece tore through his right shoe, into his ankle. Although suffering excruciating pain, the men walked twelve miles to a doctor's residence.

## BURNED WHEN AUTO BLEW UP.

## Insurance Man Has a Lively Experience With His Machine.

SUMMIT, N. J., Oct. 19.—George G. Stevens, an insurance man, had trouble with his automobile yesterday morning, and he took it to a repair shop. When he returned from New York last night he called for it and took it home, leaving it in the garage at the rear of the house. After supper he thought he would take a ride, and he entered the garage, scratching a match as he did so to light the lamps.

There was a terrific explosion, and the building caught fire. Members of the family telephoned for the firemen and assisted Mr. Stevens into the house. The firemen managed to save the residence, but the garage and machine were totally destroyed. Mr. Stevens' condition is not serious, but he suffers from severe burns and lost a good part of his hair and mustache.

## THIS WOMAN MURDERED.

## Autopsy Discloses Two Gunshot Wounds in Her Body.

BROOKLYN, N. J., Oct. 19.—County Physician Diamond made an autopsy this afternoon on the body of Mrs. Frank Ransinger, who was found dead on the floor of her farmhouse near Bridgeport yesterday afternoon. The theory had been that she committed suicide, although this was only tenable on the ground that she had put the muzzle of a heavy shotgun against her breast and, leaning over, succeeded in pulling the trigger.

The post mortem revealed two distinct gunshot wounds, one charge passing through the lower part of the stomach and the other tearing away the left side of the heart and lodging in the neck. It seems incredible to the officials that she could have caused both wounds. Added to this there was but one shell, an empty one, found in the gun afterward. There was no known means of suicide.

The position of the woman on the floor gives rise to suspicion, but nothing thus far has been found to connect any one with the crime of murder. Her husband was in the house for five or ten minutes after the shooting and saw the body afterward. He says but little about the case, declaring he knows nothing.

## \$300 FOR TUCK TWINS.

## Edward Tuck Sends the Money From Paris in the Interests of the Family.

GLOUCESTER, Mass., Oct. 19.—Dr. and Mrs. Albert E. Tuck of Rockport, who were presented with twins last January, have been surprised by the receipt of a check for \$300 for the twins. The check was from Edward Tuck, a New York banker, who is in Paris, and was forwarded to the grandfather of the twins, Dr. George O. Tuck, in this city.

In 1877 the genealogy of the descendants of Robert Tuck, one of the settlers of Hampton, N. H., in 1638, was published by Joseph Dow of Hampton. The Hon. Amos Tuck of Exeter and his son, Edward Tuck, paid the cost of publication. In 1888 Dr. George O. Tuck applied to the author for a copy. The book was received with compliments of Edward Tuck, who wrote:

"I have no brothers and no sons and only two male cousins of the name of Tuck, so that if the name is to be perpetuated the rest of you will have to attend to it." When the twins were born, Edward Tuck was informed of it. He was then in Paris, and on Monday a letter was received from him with \$100 for each of the Tuck boys. Edward Tuck has given \$200 to the Tuck family in memory of his father.

## ALBERTSON ON TRIAL.

## Deputy McAvoy Presides, and Lindsey Prosecutes Police Inspector.

Inspector Charles L. Albertson of the Bronx was put on trial yesterday morning at Police Headquarters, charged with failing to discover an alleged poolroom in the Tremont precinct and with conduct unbecoming an officer in making subsequent reports to the Police Commissioner. Capt. Ferris, in charge of the Tremont station, is to be tried on the same charges. The alleged poolroom was raided over the heads of the inspector and captain by Central Office men.

First Deputy Police Commissioner McAvoy presided at the trial. Third Deputy Commissioner Lindsey, who usually holds the police trials, had investigated the charges against the two officers and had requested Commissioner McAvoy to have some other Commissioner act as Judge. Lindsey appeared to prosecute the charges.

Frank F. Davis appeared as counsel for Inspector Albertson. But the witnesses were heard yesterday. They simply brought out the fact that the alleged poolroom had been raided. Then the trial was adjourned for one week.

## WON'T ENJOIN POLICE.

## Justice Smith Denies Application of Mott Street Saloonkeeper.

Supreme Court Justice Smith, in Brooklyn, yesterday denied the application of Antonio Mott for an injunction to restrain the Police Captain Frederick Martens of the Mulberry street station and Inspector George Titus from keeping patrolmen in front of the petitioner's saloon at 118 Mott street.

Caruso said that the presence of the uniformed men kept his customers away from the saloon. He denied that he had been in an arrest in his place. Capt. Martens put in several affidavits to show that he was not in the saloon. He said that more than forty persons had been arrested in the saloon and that it was a result of immoral entertainment.

Smith said: "Upon the affidavits submitted to me in this matter, I do not think the plaintiff has shown that he is entitled to the relief of this court to protect his rights. Motion denied."

## HOW MISS DOLBEER DIED.

## Detective Contradicts Details of Miss Warren's Story in Will Contest.

The taking of depositions for use in the contest over the will of Miss Bertha Dolbeere, the California heiress, who committed suicide at the Waldorf-Astoria in July, continued yesterday at the office of Referee Robert E. Lee at 111 Broadway. Referee Lee said that the details of the story of Miss Warren, the friend and companion of Miss Dolbeere, to whom she left the bulk of her fortune, had told him that she had walked from her room directly to the window from which she jumped.

Smith said Miss Warren had told him that this was closed and that Miss Dolbeere had opened it. Miss Warren's testimony on this point differs from that given by the other witnesses. She is to be taken to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Supreme Court Justice McCall ordered, yesterday, that such witnesses as Referee Lee had named, including George A. Taylor, with C. H. Wilson and other persons, to appear before Mr. Lee, as commissioner, to testify in the contest.

## SMASHED LAWYER'S COUPE.

## Magistrate Fined Truck Driver \$2 to Show That Justice Is Busy.

Edward K. Jones, a lawyer at 49 Wall street, appeared in Jefferson Market Police Court yesterday as complainant against a truck driver, of 531 West Twenty-ninth street. Mr. Jones told Magistrate Mayo that Dr. March had smashed into his brougham at Fifth avenue and Seventeenth street.

"If my coachman had not whipped up, he would have torn my brougham to pieces and maybe killed me," declared the lawyer. He added that he would feel happier if he could do something to make the truck driver stop climbing over people's carriages.

Magistrate Mayo assured Mr. Jones that Justice was busy with the trial of the officers, and to prove it, fined Marci \$2.

## Girl Gets \$40,000 Verdict for Injuries.

## 15 Years Old, was Run Over by a Train.

CHICAGO, Oct. 19.—To Emma Grenell, 15 years old, was run over by a train at West Chicago Street Railroad Company, for injuries sustained in 1895, when she was run down and mangled in front of her home. She is apparently strong and healthy, but only a few years ago she was a mangled wreck. The company has moved for a new trial.

## AUTUMN RESORTS.

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